



Health Equity Task Force

February 2, 2021 Meeting

Welcome

This is the thirteenth meeting of the legislative task force established by Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020 (referred to as the “Health Equity Task Force”) to study and make recommendations to the General Court that address health disparities for underserved or underrepresented populations based on culture, race, ethnicity, language, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, geographic location, including, but not limited to, gateway cities with hospitals dedicated to caring for patients who test positive for COVID-19, and age in the commonwealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Equity Task Force Members

Senate Appointees

Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz

Senator Julian Cyr

Task Force Co-Chair, Michael Curry, Esq., Deputy CEO and General Counsel at Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Dr. Milagros Abreu, Executive Director, President and Founder of The Latino Health Insurance Program

Dr. Cassandra Pierre, infectious diseases physician and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Boston University

Dr. Frank Robinson, Vice President, Public Health and Community Relations, Baystate Health

Hirak Shah, Legal Counsel for Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr

House Appointees

Representative Carlos González

Representative Liz Miranda

Task Force Co-Chair, Dr. Assaad Sayah, CEO, Cambridge Health Alliance; Commissioner of Public Health, City of Cambridge; Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, CEO, Lynn Community Health Center

Dr. Myechia Minter-Jordan, President & CEO, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement and Catalyst Institute

Jeffrey Sanchez, Lecturer, Center for Public Health Leadership, TH Chan School of Public Health; Senior Advisor, Rasky Partners

Beverly Stables, Health Care Policy Analyst for House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

Chair of the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus

Representative Chynah Tyler

Chair of the MA Asian-American Legislative Caucus

Representative Donald H. Wong

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of Task Force Members & Approval of January 19 Meeting Minutes** (10 minutes)
- 2. Presentation on Connecticut's Health and Health Equity Dashboards** (Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM, Executive Director, Connecticut Office of Health Strategy) (30 minutes)
- 3. Presentation of Health Opportunity and Equity (HOPE) Initiative: Measures to Advance Health and Opportunity** (Nadia Siddiqui, MPH, Chief Health Equity Officer, and Afrida Faria, MPH, Health Policy Research Analyst, Texas Health Institute) (30 minutes)
- 4. Updates** (20 minutes)
 - (A) Reflections on February 1st Public Hearing (All) (10 minutes)
 - (B) Final Report: Updates to Timeline (10 minutes)

Presentation and Dialogue

**Connecticut's Health and Health
Equity Dashboards
(30 minutes)**

**Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM,
Executive Director,
Connecticut Office of Health
Strategy**

Presentation and Dialogue

The Health Opportunity and Equity (HOPE) Initiative

**Measures to Advance Health and Opportunity
(30 minutes)**

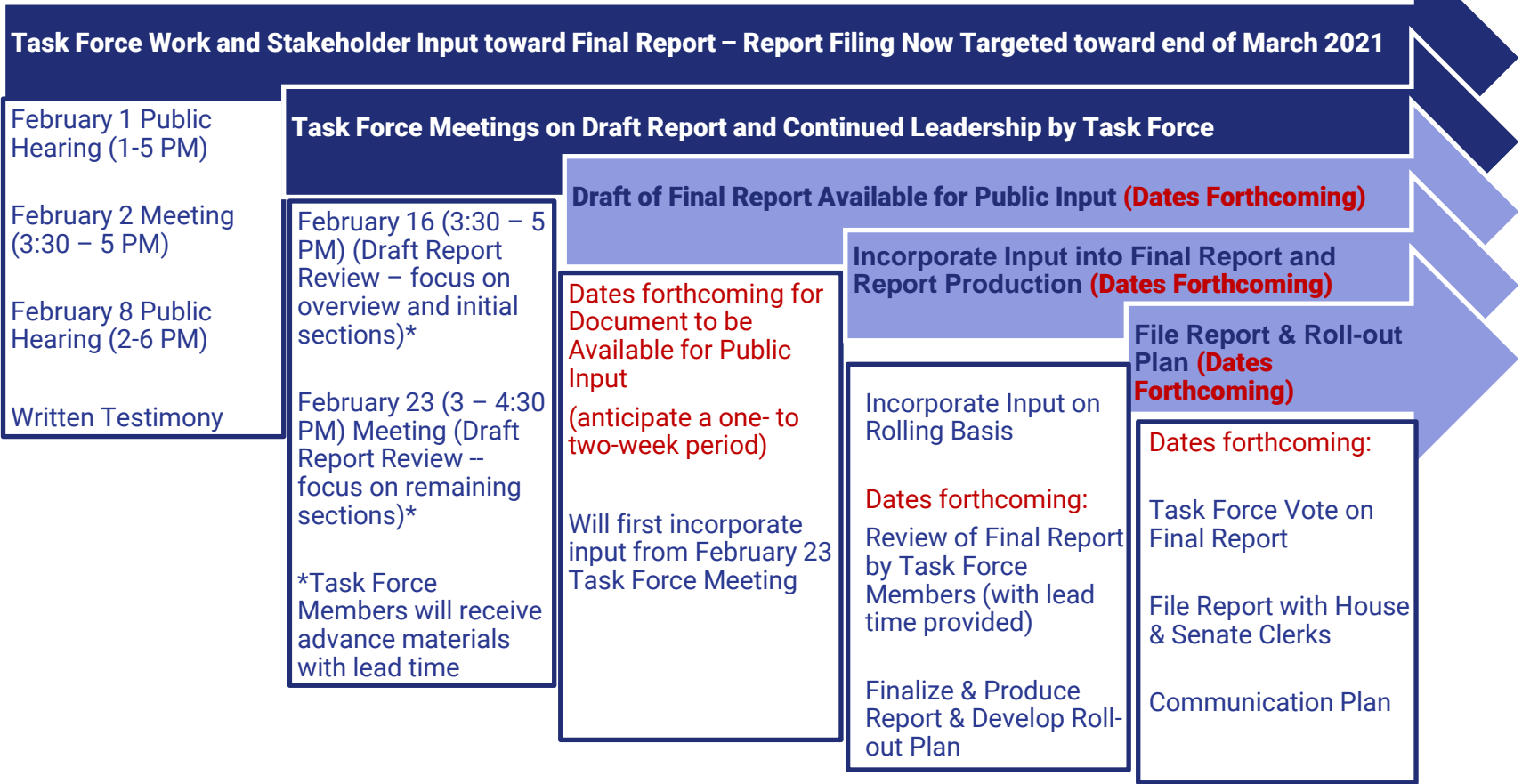
Nadia Siddiqui, MPH, Chief Health Equity Officer, Texas Health Institute

Afrida Faria, MPH, Health Policy Research Analyst, Texas Health Institute

Reflections on February 1st Public Hearing (10 minutes)

- **Task Force Member Reflections on February 1st Public Hearing (All)**
- **Additional February 8th Virtual Public Hearing (2 - 6 PM):**
 - Registration for Oral Testimony due on Wednesday, February 3rd by 5 PM.
 - Please email Donna Fox (dfox@challiance.org) and Morgan McCallister (mmccallister@massleague.org) with the subject line: "February 8th Health Equity Hearing Oral Testimony".
 - Written Testimony submission by February 8th at 6 PM

Final Report: Updated Timeline Under Development & Will Extend into March, Reflecting Extensive Input. Further Details at Feb. 16 Task Force Meeting. (10 minutes)



Next Health Equity Task Force Meetings

February 8 (2 - 6 PM) Public Hearing #3

Description: The 3rd Public Hearing will receive additional diverse and inclusive stakeholder testimony. We extend the invitation to additional stakeholders to testify.

Advance registration for oral testimony is due by Wednesday, February 3rd at 5PM via dfox@challiance.org and mmccallister@massleague.org .

February 16 (3:30 - 5 PM) Virtual Meeting

Description: This meeting of the Health Equity Task Force will focus on draft recommendations for the Final Report. Plan is to discuss overview and initial sections.

February 23 (3 – 4:30 PM) Virtual Meeting

Description: This meeting of the Health Equity Task Force will focus on draft recommendations for the Final Report. Plan is to discuss remaining sections.